

γ -RAY AND PARSEC-SCALE JET PROPERTIES OF A COMPLETE SAMPLE OF BLAZARS FROM THE MOJAVE PROGRAM

M. L. LISTER¹, M. ALLER², H. ALLER², T. HOVATTA^{1,9}, K. I. KELLERMANN³, Y. Y. KOVALEV^{4,5}, E. T. MEYER⁶, A. B. PUSHKAREV^{7,8,5}, E. ROS^{5,10} (FOR THE MOJAVE COLLABORATION) AND M. ACKERMANN¹¹, E. ANTOLINI^{12,13}, L. BALDINI¹⁴, J. BALLET¹⁵, G. BARBIELLINI^{16,17}, D. BASTIERI^{18,19}, K. BECHTOL¹¹, R. BELLAZZINI¹⁴, B. BERENJI¹¹, R. D. BLANDFORD¹¹, E. D. BLOOM¹¹, M. BOECK^{20,21}, E. BONAMENTE^{12,13}, A. W. BORGLAND¹¹, J. BREGEON¹⁴, M. BRIGIDA^{22,23}, P. BRUEL²⁴, R. BUEHLER¹¹, S. BUSON^{18,19}, G. A. CALIANDRO²⁵, R. A. CAMERON¹¹, P. A. CARAVEO²⁶, J. M. CASANDJIAN¹⁵, E. CAVAZZUTI²⁷, C. CECCHI^{12,13}, C. S. CHANG^{28,5}, E. CHARLES¹¹, A. CHEKHTMAN²⁹, C. C. CHEUNG³⁰, J. CHIANG¹¹, S. CIPRINI^{31,13}, R. CLAUS¹¹, J. COHEN-TANUGI³², J. CONRAD^{33,34,35}, S. CUTINI²⁷, F. DE PALMA^{22,23}, C. D. DERMER³⁶, E. DO COUTO E SILVA¹¹, P. S. DRELL¹¹, A. DRILICA-WAGNER¹¹, C. FAVUZZI^{22,23}, S. J. FEGAN²⁴, E. C. FERRARA³⁷, J. FINKE³⁶, W. B. FOCKE¹¹, P. FORTIN²⁴, Y. FUKAZAWA³⁸, P. FUSCO^{22,23}, F. GARGANO²³, D. GASPARRINI²⁷, N. GEHRELS³⁷, S. GERMANI^{12,13}, N. GIGLIETTO^{22,23}, F. GIORDANO^{22,23}, M. GIROLETTI³⁹, T. GLANZMAN¹¹, G. GODFREY¹¹, I. A. GRENIER¹⁵, S. GUIRIC⁴⁰, D. HADASCH²⁵, M. HAYASHIDA¹¹, E. HAYS³⁷, D. HORAN²⁴, R. E. HUGHES⁴¹, G. JÖHANNESSEN⁴², A. S. JOHNSON¹¹, M. KADLER^{43,20,44,45}, H. KATAGIRI⁴⁶, J. KATAOKA⁴⁷, J. KNÖLSEDER^{48,49}, M. KUSS¹⁴, J. LANDE¹¹, F. LONGO^{16,17}, F. LOPARCO^{22,23}, B. LOTT⁵⁰, M. N. LOVELLETTE³⁶, P. LUBRANO^{12,13}, G. M. MADEJSKI¹¹, M. N. MAZZIOTTA²³, W. MC CONVILLE^{37,51}, J. E. MCENERY^{37,51}, J. MEHAULT³², P. F. MICHELSON¹¹, T. MIZUNO³⁸, C. MONTE^{22,23}, M. E. MONZANI¹¹, A. MORSELLI⁵², I. V. MOSKALENKO¹¹, S. MURGIA¹¹, M. NAUMANN-GODO¹⁵, S. NISHINO³⁸, P. L. NOLAN¹¹, J. P. NORRIS⁵³, E. NUSS³², M. OHNO⁵⁴, T. OHSUGI⁵⁵, A. OKUMURA^{11,54}, N. OMODEI¹¹, E. ORLANDO^{11,56}, M. OZAKI⁵⁴, D. PANEQUE^{57,11}, D. PARENT³⁸, M. PESCE-ROLLINS¹⁴, M. PIERBATTISTA¹⁵, F. PIRO³², G. PIVATO¹⁹, S. RAINÓ^{22,23}, A. READHEAD⁵⁹, A. REIMER^{60,11}, O. REIMER^{60,11}, J. L. RICHARDS⁵⁹, S. RITZ⁶¹, H. F.-W. SADROZINSKI⁶¹, C. SGRÓ¹⁴, M. S. SHAW¹¹, E. J. SISKIND⁶², G. SPANDRE¹⁴, P. SPINELLI^{22,23}, H. TAKAHASHI⁵⁵, T. TANAKA¹¹, J. G. THAYER¹¹, J. B. THAYER¹¹, D. J. THOMPSON³⁷, G. TOSTI^{12,13}, A. TRAMACERE^{11,63,64}, E. TROJA^{37,65}, T. L. USHER¹¹, J. VANDENBROUCKE¹¹, V. VASILEIOU³², G. VIANELLO^{11,63}, V. VITALE^{52,66}, A. P. WAITE¹¹, P. WANG¹¹, B. L. WINER⁴¹, K. S. WOOD³⁶, S. ZIMMER^{33,34} (FOR THE *Fermi* LAT COLLABORATION)

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ABSTRACT

We investigate the *Fermi* LAT γ -ray and 15 GHz VLBA radio properties of a joint γ -ray- and radio-selected sample of AGNs obtained during the first 11 months of the *Fermi* mission (2008 Aug 4 - 2009 Jul 5). Our sample contains the brightest 173 AGNs in these bands above declination -30° during this period, and thus probes the full range of γ -ray loudness (γ -ray to radio band luminosity ratio) in the bright blazar population. The latter quantity spans at least four orders of magnitude, reflecting a wide range of spectral energy distribution (SED) parameters in the bright blazar population. The BL Lac objects, however, display a linear correlation of increasing γ -ray loudness with synchrotron SED peak frequency, suggesting a universal SED shape for objects of this class. The synchrotron self-Compton model is favored for the γ -ray emission in these BL Lacs over external seed photon models, since the latter predict a dependence of Compton dominance on Doppler factor that would destroy any observed synchrotron SED peak - γ -ray loudness correlation. The high-synchrotron peaked (HSP) BL Lac objects are distinguished by lower than average radio core brightness temperatures, and none display large radio modulation indices or high linear core polarization levels. No equivalent trends are seen for the flat-spectrum radio quasars (FSRQ) in our sample. Given the association of such properties with relativistic beaming, we suggest that the HSP BL Lacs have generally lower Doppler factors than the lower-synchrotron peaked BL Lacs or FSRQs in our sample.

Subject headings: galaxies: active — galaxies: jets — radio continuum: galaxies — gamma rays: observations — quasars: general — BL Lacertae objects: general

¹ Department of Physics, Purdue University, 525 Northwestern Avenue, West Lafayette, IN 47907, USA; mlister@purdue.edu

² Department of Astronomy, University of Michigan, 817 Dennison Building, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA;

³ National Radio Astronomy Observatory, 520 Edgemont Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903, USA;

⁴ Astro Space Center of Lebedev Physical Institute, Profsoyuznaya 84/32, 117997 Moscow, Russia;

⁵ Max-Planck-Institut für Radioastronomie, Auf dem Hügel 69, 53121 Bonn, Germany;

⁶ Department of Physics and Astronomy, Rice University, Houston, TX 77005

⁷ Pulkovo Observatory, Pulkovskoe Chaussee 65/1, 196140 St. Petersburg, Russia;

⁸ Crimean Astrophysical Observatory, 98409 Nauchny, Crimea, Ukraine;

⁹ Owens Valley Radio Observatory, California Institute of Technology

¹⁰ Departament d'Astronomia i Astrofísica, Universitat de València, E-

46100 Burjassot, València, Spain

¹¹ W. H. Hansen Experimental Physics Laboratory, Kavli Institute for Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology, Department of Physics and SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305, USA

¹² Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Sezione di Perugia, I-06123 Perugia, Italy

¹³ Dipartimento di Fisica, Università degli Studi di Perugia, I-06123 Perugia, Italy

¹⁴ Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Sezione di Pisa, I-56127 Pisa, Italy

¹⁵ Laboratoire AIM, CEA-IRFU/CNRS/Université Paris Diderot, Service d'Astrophysique, CEA Saclay, 91191 Gif sur Yvette, France

¹⁶ Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Sezione di Trieste, I-34127 Trieste, Italy

¹⁷ Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Trieste, I-34127 Trieste, Italy

¹⁸ Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Sezione di Padova, I-35131